EXHIBIT E

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

Sean Bennett, an individual,

Plaintiff,

VS.

City of Phoenix, a governmental entity; American Airlines, Inc., a foreign corporation; Officer Joel Cottrell and Jane Doe Cottrell, a married couple; Officer Benjamin Denham and Jane Doe Benham, a married couple; Officer Todd Blanc and Jane Doe Blanc, a married couple; Officer Peru and Jane Doe Peru, a married couple; Sergeant Hogan and Jane Doe Hogan, a married couple,

Defendants.

No.: CV-23-02425-PHX-ROS (DMF)

PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSES TO DEFENDANT'S FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES

(Assigned to the Honorable Roslyn O. Silver and referred to the Honorable Deborah M. Fine for all pretrial proceedings)

Through counsel undersigned and pursuant to Rule 34 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff Sean Bennett ("Plaintiff") hereby responds to "Defendant American Airlines, Inc.'s [("Defendant's")] Interrogatories [("ROGs")] to [Him] (Set One)" as follows (as used herein, the word "Complaint" means the operative complaint in this action, the term "Plaintiff's First Supplemental Disclosure Statement" means the latest disclosure statement served by Plaintiff in this action, and the term "BENNETT 1-88" means all documents produced by Plaintiff to date in this action):

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Response: Objection. This is overbroad and requires a legal conclusion. Subject to these objections, under negligence theories, a business that invites customers to utilize their services owes a duty of care to ensure safety of their customers. Business are liable for the actions of their employees under respondeat superior. By American Airlines' employees undertaking reckless actions that are indifferent to the safety of an individual, a business is responsible for violations of that duty. Furthermore, the Complaint in this matter lays out the theory of the duty owed by American Airlines and the theory of how American Airlines via its employees violated that duty. Police confirmed that American Airlines employees called for police to "step it up" and that the police were not happy after the fact that American Airlines did so. Additionally, American Airlines employees provided no statements to the police despite their histrionics over the radio. See Complaint and BENNETT 00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT 00048-57 which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

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ROG 2: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that AMERICAN AIRLINES "breached that duty systematically and repeatedly."

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Response: See Response to ROG 1. Additionally, because American Airlines employees started the incident by their callous contact with Plaintiff and their demand that he move seats, and their extreme escalation to forcing Plaintiff off the plane for a simple

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misunderstanding, and their histrionics over the radio to "step it up", Plaintiff endured significant injuries emotionally, mentally, and physically causing him to need treatment as well as endure time away from his family as he was stuck figuring out how to fly out of Alaska following this incident. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

<u>ROG 3:</u> State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that employees of AMERICAN AIRLINES falsely reported to police dispatchers that YOU were "physically fighting onboard, and close to, the airplane."

Response: Objection. Overbroad and already stated in Plaintiff's Complaint and demand letters to American Airlines. Plaintiff recalls peacefully exiting the airplane, recalls no physical contact. Furthermore, the police report in this matter states that police were told that Plaintiff was physically fighting on the plane. From the police report in this matter:

THE FOLLOWING IS A CONDENSED SUMMARY OF THE 3 CALLS OF COMMUNICATIONS RECORDED BY AMERICAN AIRLINES RELATED TO THIS CALL:

CALL #1

PILOT TO DISPATCHER HEATHER - "WE'VE GOT A COMBATIVE PASSENGER ON BOARD WE NEED POLICE DOWN HER A.S.A.P." ...HEATHER TO AVIATION POLICE DISPATCH - "ON BOARD THE AIRCRAFT, I'LL NEED LEO'S, I HAVE A MALE PASSENGER BEING COMBATIVE WITH FLIGHT CREW."

REPLY "IS THE AIRCRAFT THERE AT THE GATE?" REPLY ANSWER "YES IT IS." REPLY QUESTION "WHEN YOU SAY COMBATIVE IS HE PHYSICALLY FIGHTING?" REPLY ANSWER "THAT'S MY UNDERSTANDING, YES."

CALL #2

TOWER GATE DISPATCHER KRIS TO GATE A20 AMERICAN AIRLINES MANAGER JEFF - JEFF STATES "SOMEONE JUST BUSTED OUT THROUGH THE DOOR (JETWAY BRIDGE FROM PLANE TO CONCOURSE SECURITY DOOR) ... CAN YOU GET ME LEO'S BECAUSE I GOT SOME GUY THAT IS VERY AGITATED." ...

"LEO'S. I GOTTA GET IN FRONT OF SOMONE. O.K." REPLY FROM KRIS
"LEO'S TO ALPHA 20. COPY THAT. GOOD BYE."

CALL#3

TOWER GATE DISPATCHER HEATHER TO AVIATION POLICE DISPATCH
- HEATHER STATES "THIS IS HEATHER ... REGARDING GATE ALPHA 20 AND
A COMBATIVE PASSENGER WHO IS CURRENTLY OFF THE AIRCRAFT AND IN
THE JETWAY" RESPONSE "ARE THEY STILL FIGHTING?" RESPONSE "UM, I'M
NOT SURE ABOUT THAT. THAT WAS JUST AN (INSA?) UPDATE FROM THE
PILOT AND SO ONCE HE WAS OFF THEY CLOSED THE DOOR. BUT I'M TRYING
TO GET. HOLD ON ONE SECOND (HEATHER IS TALKING TO SOMEONE ELSE
IN THE BACKGROUND) YEAH, YEAH, IS, HOLD ON A SECOND." HEATHER
TALKING TO ANOTHER FEMALE WHO ASKS "STATUS IS HE IS IN THE
JETWAY. IS HE STILL BEING COMBATIVE?" HEATHER REPLIES TO HER "YES,

HE IS STILL BEING COMBATIVE." HEATHER TO AVIATION POLICE DISPATCH "OUTBOUND FLIGHT NUMBER IS 2391." ... "AND THEY DO HAVE HIM AT THE PODIUM NOW, THE GATE PODIUM, AND THEY, PLEASE, THEY SAY PLEASE GET LEO'S THERE A.S.A.P." CAN NOW HEAR MALE AVIATION POLICE DISPATCHER SAYING QUIETLY TO SOMEONE OR TALKING TO SELF WHILE TYPING "REQUEST STATUS, REQUEST TO STEP UP." ... HE SAYS "PERFECT. O.K. WE'LL GO AHEAD AND UPDATE WE'LL LET THE OFFICERS KNOW THAT THEY NEED TO RESPOND A LITTLE BIT QUICKER." SHE SAYS "YES, PLEASE."

See also Complaint and BENNETT_00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT_00048-57, and BENNETT_000098-BENNETT_000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT_000132-147, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 4: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that employees of AMERICAN AIRLINES caused YOU "to be added to the 'no fly list' without justification."

Response: All partner flights with American and Alaska were immediately canceled. Alaska said no. Plaintiff attempted to contact federal agencies to determine this. One such agency was the Department of Homeland Security. Plaintiff was told that he would need to attempt a flight to find out. Plaintiff contacted multiple Federal members of the legislature and three members of the State legislature in Alaska, Tennessee, and he recalls

hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein.

ROG 5: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that employees of AMERICAN AIRLINES "press[ed] charges against [YOU] for [YOUR] conduct on the plane without justification."

Oklahoma. He had to work alone to make these contacts which took an extended period of

time. See Complaint and BENNETT 000058-60, 70-81, 121-122, 129-147 which are

Response: This speaks for itself. Charges were pressed against Plaintiff. *See* Complaint, BENNETT_00089-97 (municipal court case), and BENNETT_000098-BENNETT_000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT_000132-147, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

<u>ROG 6:</u> IDENTIFY all witnesses with personal knowledge of facts YOU contend will support YOUR negligence/gross negligence claim against AMERICAN AIRLINES (including the scope of each witness's knowledge).

Response: See Plaintiff's First and Second Supplemental Disclosure Statements, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement those disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional witnesses may come to light.

<u>ROG 7:</u> IDENTIFY in detail all "physical, financial, and other damages" YOU allege were "a direct and proximate result of [American Airlines'] breach."

Response: Objection, Discovery is ongoing, and Plaintiff is working to retrieve medical records and billing. Plaintiff suffered gunshot wounds in Iraq in 2007. See BENNETT_000116 which were exacerbated by this incident. Additionally and currently, See also Plaintiff's First and Second Supplemental Disclosure Statements and See Complaint, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. See BENNETT_000115, 123, 125-126, 148. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 8: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that American Airlines' "acts and omissions ... demonstrate gross and wanton negligence."

Response: Objection, this is overbroad, and Plaintiff has delineated these actions in demand letters and the Complaint. This ROG is also duplicative of ROGS 2 and 3. Subject to those objections, none of American Airlines employees' actions were reasonable. *See* Answers to ROGS 2-3, *See* Complaint, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

<u>ROG 9:</u> State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that AMERICAN AIRLINES "knew or had reason to know that [its] acts individually and collectively created an unreasonable risk of bodily harm to [YOU], and a high probability that substantial harm to [YOU] would result."

Response: Objection. This ROG seeks information that needs to be disclosed by Defendants or has already been disclosed. Subject to that objection, see answers to ROGS 2-3, See Complaint and BENNETT_00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT_00048-57, and BENNETT_000098-BENNETT_000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT_000132-147, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 10: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that employees of AMERICAN AIRLINES" acted intentionally and recklessly to cause [YOU] to apprehend an immediate harmful or offensive contact, and [YOU] did in fact apprehend such contact."

Response: Objection. This is overly burdensome and duplicative. This ROG seeks information that has already been disclosed. Subject to that objection, *See answers to ROGS 2-3, See Complaint and BENNETT_00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT_00048-57, and BENNETT_000098-BENNETT_000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT_000132-147, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein.* Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

<u>ROG 11:</u> IDENTIFY in detail all damages YOU allege were incurred "as a direct and proximate result of [YOUR] apprehension."

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Response: Objection, Discovery is ongoing and Plaintiff is working to retrieve medical records and billing. See Complaint, and Plaintiff's First Supplemental Disclosure Statement, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Objection. This ROG seeks information that has already been disclosed. Subject to that objection, See answers to ROGS 2-3, ROG 7, See Complaint and BENNETT 00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT 00048-57, and BENNETT 000098-BENNETT 000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT 000132-147 which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and those disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 12: IDENTIFY all witnesses with personal knowledge of facts YOU contend will support YOUR assault claim against AMERICAN AIRLINES (including the scope of each witness's knowledge).

Response: See Plaintiff's First Supplemental Disclosure Statement, which is hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 13: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that employees of AMERICAN AIRLINES "intentionally and/or recklessly engaged in acts that resulted in harmful or offensive contact to [YOU]."

Response: Objection. This is duplicative of multiple ROGS including ROG 2-3, 6, 8-10. See Complaint and Disclosure statements produced in this case, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement

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these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 14: IDENTIFY all witnesses with personal knowledge of facts YOU contend will support YOUR battery claim against AMERICAN AIRLINES (including the scope of each witness's knowledge).

Response: See Plaintiff's First and Second Supplemental Disclosure Statement, which is hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 15: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that AMERICAN AIRLINES "intentionally instigated and/or participated in the unlawful restraint of [YOU] by [its] words and acts."

Response: Objection. This is duplicative of previous ROGS including ROG 2-3, 6, 8-10, 12-13, Plaintiff's First and Second Supplemental Disclosure Statements, See Complaint, BENNETT 00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT 00048-57, and BENNETT 000098-BENNETT 000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT 000132-147, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

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> ROG 16: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that AMERICAN AIRLINES "directed, requested, invited or encouraged the act of false imprisonment."

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Response: Objection. This is duplicative of previous ROGS including ROG 2-3, 6, 8-10,

12-13, 15, Plaintiff's First and Second Supplemental Disclosure Statements, See

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Complaint, BENNETT 00015-16, Demand BENNETT 00048-57, Letter and BENNETT 000098-BENNETT 000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT 000132-147 which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 17: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that AMERICAN AIRLINES "participated in the act of false imprisonment by aiding COP and the Officer Defendants in restraining [YOU]."

Response: Objection. This is duplicative of previous ROGS including ROG 2-3, 6, 8-10, 12-13, Plaintiff's First and Second Supplemental Disclosure Statements, See Complaint, BENNETT 00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT 00048-57, and BENNETT 000098-BENNETT 000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT 000132-147, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein.

Subject to those objections, Plaintiff contends that American Airlines and its employees cajoled and falsely reported to police that Plaintiff's actions were anything wrong – including that Plaintiff was physically fighting. Because of this, and through the extension of the COP and police officers' actions, Plaintiff was physically injured. American Airlines and its employees' actions were part and parcel to the attack. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light

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ROG 18: IDENTIFY in detail all damages YOU sustained as "a direct and proximate result" AMERICAN AIRLINES alleged "participation in false arrest and imprisonment."

Response: Objection, this is again a duplicative ROG. Discovery is ongoing and Plaintiff is working to retrieve medical records and billing. See Complaint, and Plaintiff's First Supplemental Disclosure Statement, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Objection. This ROG seeks information that has already been disclosed. Subject to that objection, See answers to ROGS 2-3, ROG 7, See Complaint and BENNETT 00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT 00048-57, and BENNETT 000098-BENNETT 000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT 000132-147, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and those disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 19: IDENTIFY all witnesses with personal knowledge of facts YOU contend will support YOUR false arrest claim against AMERICAN AIRLINES (including the scope of each witness's knowledge).

Response: See Plaintiff's First and Second Supplemental Disclosure Statements, which is hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and his disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

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ROG 20: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that AMERICAN AIRLINES engaged in conduct that "was extreme and outrageous."

Response: Objection. This ROG is again duplicative and seeks information that has already been disclosed. Subject to that objection, See answers to ROG 2-3, 6, 8-10, 12-13, 15, See Complaint, Plaintiff's First Supplemental Disclosure Statement and BENNETT 00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT 00048-57, and BENNETT 000098-BENNETT 000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT 000132-147, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and those disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 21: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that AMERICAN AIRLINES intentionally "sought to cause YOU emotional distress."

Response: Objection. This ROG is again duplicative and seeks information that has already been disclosed. Subject to that objection, See answers to ROG 2-3, 6, 8-10, 12-13, See Complaint, Plaintiff's First Supplemental Disclosure Statement and BENNETT 00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT 00048-57, and BENNETT 000098-BENNETT 000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT 000132-147, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and those disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

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ROG 22: State all facts in support of YOUR allegation that AMERICAN AIRLINES "was aware of and disregarded the near certainty that [its] conduct would result in emotional distress."

Response: Objection. This ROG is again duplicative and seeks information that has already been disclosed. Subject to that objection, See answers to ROG 2-3, 6, 8-10, 12-13, See Complaint, Plaintiff's First Supplemental Disclosure Statement and BENNETT 00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT 00048-57, and BENNETT 000098-BENNETT 000109 - POLICE REPORT which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and those disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

ROG 23: If YOU contend that YOU suffered severe emotional distress as a result of American Airlines, state all facts in support of YOUR contention.

Response: Objection. This ROG is again duplicative and seeks information that has already been disclosed. Subject to that objection, See answers to ROG 2-3, 6, 8-10, 12-13, See Complaint, Plaintiff's First Supplemental Disclosure Statement and BENNETT 00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT 00048-57, and BENNETT 000098-BENNETT 000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT 000132-147 which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein. Plaintiff reserves the right to supplement these responses and those disclosure statements as discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

<u>ROG 24:</u> If YOU contend the emotional distress YOU suffered as a result of the INCIDENT was severe, state all facts in support of YOUR contention.

Response: Objection. This ROG is again duplicative and seeks information that has already been disclosed. Subject to that objection, Plaintiff was stuck in Alaska tens of miles away from any services during the heart of winter. He was sequestered from his family and friends. His emotional distress caused him to lose significant weight. His bank account decreased by close to \$100,000 while he had to install plumbing to survive the Alaska winter and had to support his family. The stress and depression led to Plaintiff suffering a stroke. See answers to ROG 2-3, 6, 8-10, 12-13, 15, See Complaint, Plaintiff's First Supplemental Disclosure Statement and BENNETT_00015-16, Demand Letter BENNETT_00048-57, and BENNETT_00098-BENNETT_000109 - POLICE REPORT, BENNETT_000119, BENNETT_000132-147 which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein.

Subject to these objections, Plaintiff was stuck away from his family for months. Plaintiff suffers from PTSD and the trauma of this event caused him to enter a deep depression – even contemplating suicide. Plaintiff has served his country more than most individuals could even fathom. He has been issued commendations, purple hearts, the silver star, and more. He has consulted with politicians – including the President. He is a highly respected individual in the military and governmental communities. Being called a criminal and forced to endure humiliation, mental distress, and physical harm because of the vile actions of American Airlines and its employees all fully contributed to Plaintiff's conditions. He is unable to participate in his previous hobbies such as golf and his daily activities have been affected. This experience was overwhelming, caused him to feel

helpless, and has caused a degradation in his familial relationships and friendships. Plaintiff
reserves the right to supplement these responses and those disclosure statements as
discovery is ongoing and additional information may come to light.

<u>ROG 25:</u> IDENTIFY all witnesses with personal knowledge of facts YOU contend will support YOUR intentional infliction of emotional distress claim against AMERICAN AIRLINES (including the scope of each witness's knowledge).

Response: See Plaintiff's First and Second Supplemental Disclosure Statements, which are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully stated herein.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 6th day of February 2025.

MILLS + WOODS LAW, PLLC

By /s/ Sean A. Woods
Robert T. Mills
Sean A. Woods
5055 N 12th Street, Suite 101
Phoenix, AZ 85014
Attorneys for Plaintiff

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on February 6, 2025, I electronically transmitted the foregoing

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3 document via email to the following: 4 Patrick J. Kearns, Esq. Patrick.Kearns@wilsonelser.com Taylor Allin, Esq. 6 Taylor.Allin@wilsonelser.com Sarena Kustic, Esq. Sarena.Kustic@wilsonelser.com WILSON, ELSER, MOSKOWITZ, EDELMAN & DICKER LLP 8 titania.tessier@wilsonelser.com 9 katelyn.kingsley@wilsonelser.com ashlynn.robbins@wilsonelser.com 10 Meagan.tharp@wilsonelser.com 11 2231 E Camelback Rd., Ste. 200 Phoenix, Arizona 85016 Attorneys for Defendant American Airlines Group, Inc. 13 14 /s/ Ben Dangerfield 15 16 17 18 19 20

VERIFICATION

I, Sean Bennett, hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing Responses to Interrogatories are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

EXECUTED on Feb 6, 2025

Sean Bennett